SAVE THE DATE

First Plenary Surface Topography and Vegetation (STV) Workshop

Thursday, July 9, 8 am - 1 pm PT/11 am - 4 pm ET

The NASA Surface Topography and Vegetation (STV) Incubation Study will hold its first community workshop on Thursday July 9, 2020. The STV incubation study is being conducted by an STV team at the request of NASA in response to recommendations made in the 2017-2027 Earth Science Decadal Survey. This first virtual workshop in an ongoing series will introduce the STV Team and study to members of the relevant science and applications communities and begin to collect their input.

An email will be distributed soon with a workshop registration link and survey of interests.

The Decadal Survey recommended *high-resolution global topography, including bare surface land topography, ice topography, vegetation structure, and shallow water bathymetry* as a Targeted Observable (TO). Targeted observables address key priorities within and across disciplinary lines for a set of science objectives related to a common aspect of the Earth system. The survey identified STV as an Incubation Observable and called for assessment of next-generation measurement approaches that could be ready for spaceborne implementation in 10+ years. The survey recommends focused and sustained attention by NASA to the Incubation Observables to establish the associated prospective scientific and other user communities, and to make progress towards maturing both measurement capabilities and implementation concepts within this decade.

In late 2019 NASA established an STV Incubation Study Team. The objective of the incubation study team is to identify science and applications priorities, gaps in the specification of requirements and in technology capabilities needed to meet those priorities, and methods and activities to fill those gaps. The study team will develop a white paper for delivery to NASA outlining potential future methods and activity areas, such as modeling, Observing System Simulations Experiments (OSSEs), field campaigns, data analysis and evaluation of a range of potential observing system architectures utilizing emerging sensor, platform and information technologies, and activities to advance those technologies to the point where they could support future space-based STV observations. The team will produce a preliminary Science and Applications Traceability Matrix (SATM) that includes relevant societal or science questions, Earth science and application objectives, geophysical observables, product requirements and draft concepts of associated measurement approaches. The white paper and preliminary SATM will be used by NASA Headquarters to help inform future solicitations to advance STV.

The team will solicit input from the broader community through online questionnaires and a series of virtual workshops. The first plenary workshop will be held Thursday, July 9, 2020 from 8 am - 1 pm PT/11 am - 4 PM ET. At this first workshop the team will introduce the STV study and progress to date. There will be time for input, questions, and clarification. Subsequent workshops will be discipline specific. Additional plenary meetings will allow the community to provide input to the STV SATM and white paper.

Additional information about the study is available at
https://science.nasa.gov/earth-science/decadal-stv

The decadal survey can be found here:
(https://www.nap.edu/catalog/24938/thriving-on-our-changing-planet-a-decadal-strategy-for-earth)